

the use of a mechanical lumber sorter in 1972, which set the company apart as being ahead of its time. In addition to their commitment to innovation and efficiency, owners and employees of Bennett Lumber pride themselves on producing high-quality products while also adhering to sustainable land management principles.

Bennett Lumber also displays a commitment to the communities in which the company operates by contributing to the Idaho Forest Products Commission's Project Learning Tree. This award-winning organization is dedicated to children's environmental education programs that help to teach students about land stewardship. Bennett Lumber also organizes youth summer reading programs, scholarship awards, school forestry tours, 4-H projects, and contributes to the Distinguished Young Women of Idaho Program. I would like to extend my sincerest congratulations to the employees and owners of Bennett Lumber Products, Inc., for being selected as the February Small Business of the Month. You make our great State proud, and I look forward to watching your continued growth and success.●

#### 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF ALEXION PHARMACEUTICALS

● Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Mr. President, I am proud to recognize and celebrate the 25th anniversary of Alexion Pharmaceuticals, a company that has brought life-transforming therapies to patients around the world from its headquarters in New Haven, CT. Since its establishment by Leonard Bell in 1992, Alexion has become a global leader in discovering, developing, and delivering therapies for people with devastating and rare disorders. I have always been honored to call Alexion a Connecticut company, and I applaud the life-changing gains in medicine that it has made from the city of New Haven since 1992.

Even while maintaining a commitment to developing new therapies that impact the lives of patients with rare disorders throughout the world, Alexion has always remained committed to its community in Connecticut. Whether it is helping connect individuals who are homeless with temporary work assignments in New Haven, partnering with scientists at the University of Connecticut, or subsidizing public transportation to help students get to their classes at Gateway Community College, Alexion has proven time and time again that its commitment to the people of Connecticut and to its over 1,000 employees in the State is as strong as ever.

On its 25th anniversary, I applaud Alexion and the people who work so tirelessly for Alexion's values and commitment each and every day. Alexion continues changing lives through its medical breakthroughs, and I am so pleased to know that they call Connecticut home. Thank you.●

#### REMEMBERING WILLARD "WILL" P. HEDDLES

● Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, today I wish to remember the life and legacy of Mr. Willard "Will" P. Heddles, a champion of American manufacturing who dedicated much of his life to improving his home—the community of Tiffin, OH.

A native of Colorado, Mr. Heddles moved to Tiffin in the 1970s to oversee Tiffin Art Metal Company. The company was founded at the turn of the century, originally making stamped ornamental ceiling panels. When cars became popular in the 1920s, the company seized the opportunity and began making large billboard frames.

When its parent company wanted to sell the plant, Mr. Heddles wasn't impressed by any of the potential buyers. He knew how important this plant was to his community. So Mr. Heddles organized a management buyout and eventually became the owner of the company, known today as Tiffin Metal Products.

Under Mr. Heddles' leadership, Tiffin Metal Products continued to demonstrate the kind of adaptability and creativity that enables a company to grow and thrive. Today Tiffin Metal Products remains one of the two main manufacturers of large billboards in the country, while also making custom products and a popular brand of specialty lockers for law enforcement.

Mr. Heddles took pride in his role in American manufacturing and in keeping his company true to its Ohio roots. Over the years, Tiffin Metal Products has provided good jobs to hundreds of people in Tiffin and Seneca County, and those workers have shown the world that Ohioans know how to make things and make them well.

Will Heddles also took pride in his community, giving generously to local service programs and the arts and helping establish the Seneca Industrial and Economic Development Corporation, a private nonprofit organization working to drive positive economic and community development in the area.

He will be missed by his family, church, community, and the men and women who have been a part of Tiffin Metal Products, a great Ohio manufacturing success story. I am sure that my Senate colleagues join me in celebrating the life of Mr. Willard P. Heddles and his lifelong commitment to American manufacturing.●

#### TRIBUTE TO DEBORAH WICKS

● Mr. COONS. Mr. President, I rise to honor the exemplary service of the Smyrna Delaware School District Superintendent, Deborah Wicks, and recognize her upcoming retirement. For nearly half a century, she has been an exceptional teacher and leader, serving in many positions throughout Delaware's fastest growing school district. Her hard work, perseverance, and dedication will truly be missed by students,

parents, and Delawareans up and down our State.

Since 1967, Debbie has played an active and integral role within the Smyrna Delaware School District, serving as a special education teacher for 16 years and an associate principal for 4 years, before serving as the district's superintendent for 19 years. Throughout her time in the district, Debbie has been a key leader, instrumental in the successful completion of many projects like the John Bassett Moore Intermediate School and the School Special Services Building. As she steps down from her position as superintendent in June, I join the many Delawareans she has worked with in thanking Deborah for her diligent efforts to improve the education system for Delaware's children through hard work and diligence.

A native of Smyrna, DE, and educated in the same school system that she serves so faithfully, Debbie has always been a champion for students, teachers, and the local community. Being a champion to Debbie means helping to instill values of integrity, compassion, perseverance, respect, and responsibility—values visible in the hallways and classrooms of the schools in Smyrna and in the hearts of its graduates.

Debbie's success can be attributed not only to a commitment to instill essential values in district students, but also to a genuine passion for the betterment of her community. Her ability to develop and foster community relationships essential to the district's long-term educational success can be seen in numerous completed projects and building upgrades, as well as the annual "I Love Smyrna School District Day," which has drawn close to 7,000 attendees in recent years.

Debbie's work has been nothing short of inspirational, and we are sincerely grateful for all that she has done on behalf of the students and families of Smyrna. Her model leadership and dedication has touched so many lives in Smyrna and beyond. It is my privilege to offer my sincerest congratulations on a job well done and wish her many happy, healthy, and successful years to come.●

#### VALLEY COUNTY'S CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY

● Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, my colleague Senator JIM RISCH joins me today in recognizing Valley County, ID, on its 100-year anniversary of its establishment by the Idaho State Legislature in 1917.

Valley County's rich natural resources and landscapes have long been a draw for the determined and industrious. The Native Americans, packers, prospectors, miners, homesteaders, trappers, ranchers, loggers, farmers, recreationists, conservationists, and more who have made homes in and traversed the county have contributed to its deep and fascinating history and shaped its culture. This expansive